

CMS Manual System	Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Pub 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Transmittal 13938	Date: August 27, 2026
	Change Request 14586

SUBJECT: Instructions for Downloading the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Files for the January, April, July and October 2027 Quarterly Releases

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: The purpose of this Change Request (CR) is to describe the revised process for updating the HCPCS files for each quarter in calendar year 2027. The complete HCPCS file is updated and released quarterly to the Medicare contractors. The updated files contain existing, new, revised and discontinued HCPCS codes. Contractors shall retrieve the data via the Cloud, when instructed in a separate email notification from CMS. This recurring update notification applies to publication 100-04, chapter 23, section 20.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2027; April 1, 2027; July 1, 2027; October 1, 2027

**Unless otherwise specified, the effective date is the date of service.*

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 4, 2027; April 5, 2027; July 5, 2027; October 4, 2027

Disclaimer for manual changes only: The revision date and transmittal number apply only to red italicized material. Any other material was previously published and remains unchanged. However, if this revision contains a table of contents, you will receive the new/revised information only, and not the entire table of contents.

II. CHANGES IN MANUAL INSTRUCTIONS: (N/A if manual is not updated)

R=REVISED, N=NEW, D=DELETED-Only One Per Row.

R/N/D	CHAPTER / SECTION / SUBSECTION / TITLE
N/A	N/A

III. FUNDING:

For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC Statement of Work. The contractor is not obligated to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

Recurring Update Notification

Attachment - Recurring Update Notification

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II. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Background: The purpose of this Change Request (CR) is to describe the process for updating the HCPCS files. The complete HCPCS file is updated and released quarterly to the Medicare contractors. The updated files contain existing, new, revised and discontinued HCPCS codes. Approximately six (6) weeks prior to the beginning of the January 1st, April 1st, July 1st, and October 1st quarters, CMS will make available the updated HCPCS file. Thus, the updated files will be available approximately on November 15th for the January release; February 15th for the April 1st release; May 15th for the July 1st release; and August 15th for the October 1st release. Contractors shall retrieve the data via the Cloud, when instructed in a separate email notification from CMS.

B. Policy: There is no new policy associated with this change request. However, this CR replaces, on an annual basis, the former quarterly issued HCPCS CRs.

III. BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS TABLE

"Shall" denotes a mandatory requirement, and "should" denotes an optional requirement.

Number	Requirement	Responsibility								
		A/B MAC			DME MAC	Shared-System Maintainers				Other
		A	B	HHH		FISS	MCS	VMS	CWF	
14586.1	Contractors shall download the HCPCS data from the Cloud service and implement it into their testing and production regions for each quarterly release.	X	X	X	X		X		X	CMS, CVM, PCS
14586.1.1	Upon email notification from CMS, Data Centers		X							Hybrid Cloud

Number	Requirement	Responsibility								
		A/B MAC			DME MAC	Shared-System Maintainers				Other
		A	B	HHH		FISS	MCS	VMS	CWF	
	(DCs) shall download the HCPCS data from the cloud service and work with Part B MACs to implement it into their testing and production regions. Note: In the event of unexpected circumstances or issues, CMS shall provide further instruction to the MACs and DCs via email to load the mainframe files.									Data Center (HCDC), PCS
14586.2	CMS shall notify the contractors by email from CMS to the CMS functional workgroup. The email shall instruct the contractors what action(s) to take to implement the adjustments/updates, if any adjustments/updates are needed prior to the CR implementation date, such as a corrected HCPCS file.	X	X	X	X		X		X	CMS, Hybrid Cloud Data Center (HCDC), PCS, PDAC
14586.2.1	Contractors shall implement the adjustments/updates to the HCPCS file in accordance with the instructions CMS has sent to the CMS functional workgroup.	X	X	X	X		X		X	PDAC

IV. PROVIDER EDUCATION

None

Impacted Contractors: None

V. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Section A: Recommendations and supporting information associated with listed requirements: N/A

"Should" denotes a recommendation.

X-Ref Requirement Number	Recommendations or other supporting information:
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Section B: All other recommendations and supporting information: N/A

VI. CONTACTS

Post-Implementation Contact(s): Contact your Contracting Officer's Representative (COR).

VII. FUNDING

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ATTACHMENTS: 0